

Serial No. 10/600,233
Art Unit 3721
Reply to Office Action of June 15, 2004

Amendment A

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A dispenser assembly for a strapping machine of the type having a frame supporting a feed assembly and a chute, the strapping machine including a strapping head disposed between the feed assembly and the chute, the strapping machine configured to receive first and second courses of associated strap material, position, tension and seal the strap material around a load, the strap material provided on a coil having an axis of rotation about which the coil rotates to dispense the strap material, the dispenser assembly comprising:

a support panel hingedly mounted to the frame, the support panel pivotable between an open position and a closed position, the support panel including a central hub defining an axis for carrying the coil of strap material, the hub mounted to the support panel such that the axis is in a substantially horizontal orientation when the panel is closed and in a substantially upstanding orientation when the panel is open; and

a latching element for securing the support panel in the closed position.

Claim 2 (original): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 1 including a handle, and wherein the latching element is operably connected to the handle.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 2 wherein the latching element includes a hook portion including a biasing element for biasing the latching element to a latched position.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 1 including

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a supporting flange mounted to the support panel~~panel~~ door, wherein the central hub extends centrally from the support flange.

Claim 5 (original): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 1 wherein the central hub includes a core and a stub extending outwardly therefrom, the core configured for receiving the coil of strap material thereon.

Claim 6 (original): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 5 including spacers mounted to the core for engaging and stabilizing the coil of strap material.

Claim 7 (original): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 1 including an outer locking flange for securing the coil of strap material to the central hub.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 5 including an outer locking flange for securing the coil of strap material to the central hub, wherein the outer locking flange is positioned over the coil of strap material and the core with the stub extending ~~through~~through an opening in a center of the outer locking flange, and including a locking element engageable with the stub for locking the locking flange in place.

Claim 9 (original): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 1 wherein the panel is mounted to the frame by pivot pins.

Claim 10 (original): A strapping machine of the type configured to receive first and second courses of associated strap material, position, tension and seal the strap material around a load, comprising:

- a frame;
- a feed assembly mounted to the frame;

a chute mounted to the frame;
a strapping head disposed between the feed assembly and the chute;
an infeed arrangement; and
a strap supply for supplying strap material to the feed assembly through the infeed arrangement, the strap supply including a dispenser assembly, the dispenser assembly including a support panel hingedly mounted to the frame, the support panel pivotable between an open position and a closed position, the support panel including a central hub defining an axis for carrying the coil of strap material, the hub mounted to the support panel such that the axis is in a substantially horizontal orientation when the panel is closed and in a substantially upstanding orientation when the panel is open.

Claim 11 (original): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 10 including a latching element for securing the support panel in the closed position.

Claim 12 (original): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 11 including a handle, and wherein the latching element is operably connected to the handle.

Claim 13(currently amended): The dispenser assembly in accordance with claim 11
wherein the latching element includes a hook portion including a biasing element for biasing the latching element to a latched position.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 10 including a supporting flange mounted to the support panel door, wherein the central hub extends centrally from the support flange.

Claim 15 (original): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 10 wherein the central hub includes a core and a stub extending outwardly therefrom, the core configured for

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receiving the coil of strap material thereon.

Claim 16 (original): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 15 including spacers mounted to the core for engaging and stabilizing the coil of strapped material.

Claim 17 (original): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 10 including an outer locking flange for securing the coil of strap material to the central hub.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The strapping machine in accordance with claim 15 including an outer locking flange for securing the coil of strap material to the central hub, wherein the outer locking flange is positioned over the coil of strap material and the core with the stub extending ~~through~~ through an opening in a center of the outer locking flange, and including a locking element engageable with the stub for locking the locking flange in place.

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Amendments to the Drawings

The first two sheets are formal replacements for the informal drawings and photographs filed with the present application. The replacement sheets also address the Examiner's objections to the drawings.

Attachment: Two Replacement Sheets of Formal Drawings
Two Annotated Sheets Showing Changes to FIGS. 1-4.